

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a fixing unit that fixes a toner image transferred to paper, said fixing unit further having a plurality of heaters;

a main power supply that provides a portion of the heaters with voltage; and

a secondary power supply that provides another portion of the heaters connected to the portion of the heaters in parallel with power charged by said main power supply;

wherein

said secondary power supply is disposed below and in the neighborhood of said fixing unit.

Claim 2 (Original): An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a fixing unit that fixes a toner image transferred to paper, said fixing unit further having a plurality of heaters;

a main power supply that provides a portion of the heaters with voltage; and

a secondary power supply that provides another portion of the heaters connected to the portion of the heaters in parallel with power charged by said main power supply;

wherein

said secondary power supply is disposed between a side face of a chassis of the image forming apparatus and said fixing unit, or at an exterior of the chassis of the image forming apparatus on the side face of the chassis.

Claim 3 (Original): An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a fixing unit that fixes a toner image transferred to paper, said fixing unit further having a plurality of heaters;

a main power supply that provides a portion of the heaters with voltage;

a secondary power supply that provides another portion of the heaters connected to the portion of the heaters in parallel with power charged by said main power supply; and

a paper feed unit to which a plurality of paper feed trays are loadable, the paper being stored in the paper feed trays;

wherein

said secondary power supply is disposed as a portion of said paper feed unit.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1, further comprising:

an insulation member disposed between said fixing unit and said secondary power supply.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1, further comprising:

an insulation member disposed so as to cover said secondary power supply.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1,

wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises a secondary power supply circuit and a capacitor, and the capacitor is covered by said insulation member.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1, further comprising:

- a first connection terminal provided on the chassis of the image forming apparatus;
- and
- a second connection terminal that is electrically connected to said second power supply, said second connection terminal being connectable to said first connection terminal.

Claim 8 (Original): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 7,
wherein
said first connection terminal and said second connection terminal are detachable.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1,

wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises:

- a capacitor; and
- a discharging unit that discharges a charge stored in said capacitor when said secondary power supply is being maintained or replaced.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1,

wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises:

- a capacitor of a high capacity; and

a switch unit that switches on and off a ventilation unit for generating air flow in and around said secondary power supply.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1,

wherein

a wire of 14 or more in AWG size is used for connecting said secondary power supply and the heaters.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1,

wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises a cooling unit that cools an interior of said secondary power supply.

Claim 13 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:

an insulation member disposed between said fixing unit and said secondary power supply.

Claim 14 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:

an insulation member disposed so as to cover said secondary power supply.

Claim 15 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2,

wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises a secondary power supply circuit and a capacitor, and the capacitor is covered by said insulation member.

Claim 16 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:

a first connection terminal provided on the chassis of the image forming apparatus;
and

a second connection terminal that is electrically connected to said second power supply, said second connection terminal being connectable to said first connection terminal.

Claim 17 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 16,

wherein

said first connection terminal and said second connection terminal are detachable.

Claim 18 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2,

wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises:

a capacitor; and

a discharging unit that discharges a charge stored in said capacitor when said secondary power supply is being maintained or replaced.

Claim 19 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2,

wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises:

a capacitor of a high capacity; and

a switch unit that switches on and off a ventilation unit for generating air flow in and around said secondary power supply.

Claim 20 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein

a wire of 14 or more in AWG size is used for connecting said secondary power supply and the heaters.

Claim 21 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises a cooling unit that cools an interior of said secondary power supply.

Claim 22 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3, further comprising:

an insulation member disposed between said fixing unit and said secondary power supply.

Claim 23 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3, further comprising:

an insulation member disposed so as to cover said secondary power supply.

Claim 24 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises a secondary power supply circuit and a capacitor, and the capacitor is covered by said insulation member.

Claim 25 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3, further comprising:

a first connection terminal provided on the chassis of the image forming apparatus;
and

a second connection terminal that is electrically connected to said second power supply, said second connection terminal being connectable to said first connection terminal.

Claim 26 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 25,
wherein

said first connection terminal and said second connection terminal are detachable.

Claim 27 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3,
wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises:

a capacitor; and

a discharging unit that discharges a charge stored in said capacitor when said secondary power supply is being maintained or replaced.

Claim 28 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3,
wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises:

a capacitor of a high capacity; and

a switch unit that switches on and off a ventilation unit for generating air flow in and around said secondary power supply.

Claim 29 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3,
wherein

a wire of 14 or more in AWG size is used for connecting said secondary power supply and the heaters.

Claim 30 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3,
wherein

said secondary power supply further comprises a cooling unit that cools an interior of said secondary power supply.